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COUNTRY USSR

SUBJECT Steam-driven Truck

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Although the following text presumably represents the first-hand observations of source, its tone nevertheless suggests that at least some of the facts may have been extracted from Soviet publications. There has been no opportunity to determine the text's basic origin, but the

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1. A steam-driven truck equipped with two trailers having a combined capacity of 12-14 tons has been developed by the Soviet Automotive Research Institute.
2. The truck's steam power installation weighs only 20% more than the usual automobile engine. It features a light, reliable boiler, and operates on cheap wood, peat, or coal fuel. Fuel and water are fed automatically. Used steam is reconverted in a condenser unit.
3. The water tank has a capacity adequate for a 630-mile run. Fuel bunkers carry enough for a 150-250-mile run, depending on the type of fuel used.
4. By utilizing the truck-trailer unit, the USSR expects to reduce freight transfer costs 50%, at the same time economizing on critical gasoline.

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